



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION (FRA)

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: FRA-06-05V

POSITION TITLE: Supervisory Trial Attorney
(Transportation), GS-905-15
Full Performance Level: GS-15
Salary: \$107,521 to \$139,774 per annum

POSITION LOCATION: Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Chief Counsel, Safety Law Div
Washington, DC

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: All Sources (All applicants must be United States citizens.)

OPENING DATE: 01/10/06

CLOSING DATE: 01/31/06

NUMBER AND TYPE: One Full-Time Permanent Position

Due to U.S. mail delays, it is recommended that applicants fax, use a professional delivery service (i.e., FedEx, UPS, etc.), email, or personally deliver applications to ensure timely receipt.

DOT is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants will be considered regardless of political affiliation, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, or other non-merit factors. DOT provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify us. Decisions on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Why Work For Us? Transportation impacts every facet of American life, providing people access to work, school, loved ones, and nature's rich bounty. The U.S. Department of Transportation is committed to transportation excellence and strives to create the best possible integrated air, land, and sea transportation system for America. As a DOT employee, you will become a part of the dedicated workforce who work day-to-day to make measurable improvements in our transportation system, the security of our nation, and the quality of American life.

The Federal Railroad Administration, an Operating Administration in the Department of Transportation, was created to promote and enforce safety throughout the U.S. railroad system, consolidate Federal support for rail transportation, and support research and development for rail transportation for passengers, railroad employees and the general public. For further information about the FRA, visit www.fra.dot.gov.

Summary Of The Essential Job Functions: As a Supervisory Trial Attorney
you will:

Serve as the Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel of the Safety Law Division. The Division provides legal support for the Federal railroad safety program. As one of two primary assistants to the Assistant Chief Counsel for Safety, the incumbent manages the legal functions of one branch of the Division and is responsible for effective human resource management within the branch, which includes attorneys and support staff. The work embraces all aspects of the traditional government practice, with major emphasis on the following areas: (1) enforcement of the rail safety statutes and regulations, chiefly through the assessment and collection of civil penalties against railroads and shippers, but also through the issuance of emergency orders and the pursuit of other special remedies; (2) development and drafting of the agency's safety regulations; (3) conduct in conjunction with the Department of Justice the offensive and defensive litigation arising from the rail safety program; (4) development and drafting of the agency's rail safety legislative proposals and comments on related proposals from other sources; and (5) provision of legal guidance to the program office. Carries out the full range of personnel management responsibilities, and is responsible for developing and implementing plans to meet equal employment opportunity and affirmative action goals and achieving work force diversity.

What Are The Minimum Qualifications For This Position?

Candidates must possess a law degree and be a member of a State bar. In addition, candidates must have at least five years of progressively responsible experience in one or more of the substantive areas (enforcement, regulation, litigation, legislation, and legal guidance) that the position covers, including at least 52 weeks of specialized experience at a level of difficulty and responsibility that is comparable to the next lower grade in the Federal Service.

What Are The Required Knowledge, Skills And Abilities For This Job?

1. Ability to analyze complex legal issues and provide reasonable solutions.
2. Knowledge of Federal Railroad safety laws, railroad safety regulations and administrative law.
3. Experience developing well-written regulations and/or legislative proposals that are well written, accomplish their purposes, and are likely to survive legal challenge.
4. Experience in administrative or judicial litigation.

What Are The Desired Knowledge, Skills And Abilities For This Job?

Demonstrated ability to supervise a diverse workforce including: creating a culture that fosters high standards of ethics; developing strategies to maximize employee potential; developing performance plans and monitoring performance; resolving conflicts; fostering workforce diversity on the staff; and recognizing staff contributions.

How Will The Qualified Applicants Be Further Evaluated And Rated To Identify The Best Qualified?

If you are basically qualified for this job, you will be further evaluated on the quality and extent of your total accomplishments, experience and education that are directly related to the duties of the position specifically identified in the announcement. We also may consider your performance appraisal, awards, and relevant training.

What Employee Benefits Do We Provide? The Federal Government offers excellent benefits, flexible work schedules and family-friendly programs. You will receive paid annual leave and sick leave. Depending on whether the position you are applying for is permanent or time limited, you will be eligible for retirement, health insurance, life insurance and Long Term Care insurance. A brief summary of the Federal benefits for permanent employees can be found at www.usajobs.opm.gov/EI61.htm.

Before You Go Any Further, Here Are Some Other Things You Need to Know

- United States citizenship is required. (Proof of citizenship will be required to be shown upon appointment.)
- If you are a male between the ages of 18 and 26 or born after December 31, 1959, certification is required at the time you are employed that you have registered with the Selective Service for the draft, unless the Selective Service has approved a waiver for you.
- Applicants must meet the qualification requirements by the closing date of the announcement.
- If selected, you will be required to serve a one-year probationary period for newly appointed managers, unless you previously have completed a managerial probationary period. Satisfactory completion of the managerial probationary period is a prerequisite to continuation in the position.
- The FRA has determined that seniority rights, leaves of absence, and reemployment rights generally constitute an actual or an appearance of a conflict of interest. New employees may be required to divest themselves of such rights immediately upon hire if these rights are determined to constitute an actual or appearance of a conflict of interest. If new employees are permitted to retain such rights, the rights must be divested at the end of the one -year probationary period. No waivers of this requirement will be granted.
- FRA employees are prohibited from owning railroad stock, except, under certain circumstances, as part of a diversified mutual fund.

- Travel and transportation expenses will be paid if the selection results in a promotion OR for a geographical reassignment if the FRA selectee occupies a position that has significantly different duties from that of this position vacancy.
- If selected, you will be subject to the Standards of Ethical Conduct applicable to all DOT employees.
- This is an Excepted Service position.

How To Apply For This Position

You must submit your current Resume or an OF-612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment). You may choose which form to submit provided it contains all required information. Required information is listed in the section below labeled “Here’s What Your Application Must Contain.” The OF-612 is available on the Office of Personnel Management website at www.usajobs.opm.gov under Forms.

Required Documentation:

- A writing sample
- A copy of an official certificate showing that the applicant is a member of a State bar.

All required and supplemental documents referred to above must be received at the time your application is submitted to FRA Human Resources Office. Documents may be faxed to (202) 493-6169 to assure timely receipt. Please indicate the announcement number on each supplemental document. Without such documentation, an applicant may not receive consideration for this vacancy. **REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS WILL NOT BE GRANTED.**

Where To Send Your Application

- You may mail or deliver your application to the Federal Railroad Administration, Office of Human Resources, 1120 Vermont Avenue, N.W., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20590.
- If you are faxing your application, please limit the application to **a maximum of 20 pages** and include a cover sheet. Our fax number is 202/493-6169. We will not accept applications faxed from a Federal Government fax machine.
- ALL applications must be in our office or postmarked by the closing date of the announcement.
- Applications mailed in a Government envelope will not be accepted.

Questions?

Call the Office of Human Resources at 202/493-6112 or TDD 202/493-6487 or 6488. Please reference the announcement number so we can help you more efficiently.

Para mas informacion en espanol sobre este anuncio de vacante o cualquier otra information sobre empleo en las Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), por favor llame a Francisco Gonzalez 202/493-6076. La FRA es un empleador con igualdad de oportunidad en el empleo, y que por medio de programas de accion afirmativa mantiene un ambiente multicultural. Todos los que soliciten recibiran igual consideracion, sin ninguna excepcion, por raza, color, religion, sexo, origin nacional, politica, impedimento fisico o edad.

ALTERNATIVE FORMATS: If you need a copy of this announcement in an alternative format to accommodate a disability, please contact Marcella Mullins at marcie.mullins@fra.dot.gov, on 202/493-6114 or at the TDD number 202/493-6487 or 6488.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: If you are requesting reasonable accommodation in connection with applying for this vacancy, please contact Marcella Mullins as listed above.

HERE'S WHAT YOUR APPLICATION MUST CONTAIN

JOB INFORMATION

- Announcement number and title of the position

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Full name
- Mailing address (with Zip Code)
- Social Security Number
- Country of citizenship (Most Federal jobs require United States citizenship)
- Veterans' preference
(**Proof Required – Attach DD 214**)
- Federal employees & Reinstatement eligibles (**Attach SF-50**)
- Highest Federal civilian grade held

EDUCATION

- High School name, city, state, and date of diploma or GED
- College/University names, city, and state
- Major(s)
- Type and year of degree(s) received

WORK EXPERIENCE

(paid and unpaid)

- Job Title
- Duties and accomplishments
- Employer's name and address (indicate if we may contact your current supervisor)
- Supervisor's name and telephone number
- Starting and ending dates (month and year)
- Hours per week
- Salary and/or Grade (GS-or equivalent)

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- Job-related training courses (title and year)
- Job-related skills (e.g., foreign languages, computer software/hardware, etc.)
- Job-related certificates and licenses (current only)
- Job-related honors, awards, and special accomplishments (e.g., memberships in professional or honor societies, leadership activities, public speaking, performance awards and publications) (give dates)

Privacy Act Requirements: The forms referenced in this announcement are used to determine applicants' qualifications for the position and are authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3302 and 3361.